Killing of Tigers

2013. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than 100 tigers were killed in the first six months of the new millennium; and

(b) if so, the action taken to manage the sanctuaries and tiger reserves properly, to prevent illegal poaching and lucrative business of tiger's body parts ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU) : (a) As per the reports available with the Ministry 14 tigers have been poached during the first six months of the year 2001. In addition, 18 nos. of tiger's skins and 12 skulls have also been seized in different parts of the country.

(b) The action taken to manage the sanctuaries, tiger reserves and to prevent illegal poaching, trade of tiger's body parts are as follows :

(1) **Action taken at the State level :**

(i) Legal protection has been provided to tigers and other wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(2) **Action taken at National level :**

(i) During the Ninth Five Year Plan, the Government has increased the Project Tiger reserves to 27 from 24. The total area under the Project Tiger has been increased from 35,069 Sq. Kms to 37,761 Sq. Kms.

(ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.

(iii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development around Protected Areas for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to

wild animals. Financial assistance is, in particular, being provided for raising 'Strike Forces' and providing arms to the protection staff for combating the organised poachers. Assistance is also provided for giving rewards to the informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.

(iv) Officers from the Central Government regularly visit and inspect various National Parks & Sanctuaries in the country to assess the quality, quantity and functionality of the weapons, vehicles, wireless sets and other essential equipment available to the field staff.

(v) To check alienation of local communities due to wildlife depredation, the Central Government gives compensation to the extent of Rs. 1 lakh to the kith and kin of the persons killed by the wild animals.

(vi) A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(vii) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM Policy.

(viii) A National Conference of Forests and Environment Ministers of State Government was held 29th and 30th January, 2001. It was resolved to organise existing protection staff into viable formations for effective control of poaching and to create enforcement infrasturcture both within and outside protected areas.

(ix) Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(x) A meeting of Tiger Enforcement Task Force of CITES was organized during April, 2001 in Delhi to work out a strategy for controlling illegal trade in tiger parts and products.

(3) **Action taken at International level :**

(i) Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provision of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.

(ii) To control transboundary trade a protocol has been signed with Peoples' Republic of China and a MOU has been signed with his majesty's Government of Nepal.

(iii) A Global Tiger forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

Cleaning of Musi River

2014. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have sent a proposal to clean the Musi River, on the banks of which the city of Hyderabad is situated;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal ;

(c) whether any action plan has prepared for the purpose ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, sir.

(b) to (d) As per the project feasibility report, details of the envisaged activities/ work components are as given below :

Item of works	Estimated Cost (Rs. crore)
Interception and Diversion	6.06
Conveying Mains/Sewersand	100.03
Sewage Treatment Plants	146.80
Cost of Land	18.75
Inspection Vehicle, Computer Software/ Hardware	1.00
Centages Charges	22.00
	294.64

The State Government is now readying the Detailed Project report to firm up the cost and scope of work.